

**APPROVED**  
**Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)**  
**General Public Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 11 February 2020**  
**Northridge Christian Church**  
**18901 Chatsworth Street, Northridge 91326**

1. Meeting Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Determination of a Quorum
  - President Peter Lasky called the meeting to order at 6.22PM, welcomed over thirty stakeholders, twelve board members, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - A quorum was declared via the following roll call:  
Here (12) Abigail Bailes, Pamela Bolin, Lloyd Dent, Kathleen Edwards,  
Bill Fox, Jennifer Krowne, Gail Lapaz, Peter Lasky, Rana Sharif,  
Kelly Sooter, Josue Toscano, and Glen Wilson
  
2. Comments by Public Officials
  - Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
    - Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Election Day. Beginning this year, LA County will have voting centers (rather than precincts) effective Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> during this eleven-day and four-day voting cycle. This will also allow folks to vote anywhere. For a list of voting locations, please visit [locator.lavote.net](http://locator.lavote.net).
    - The Bureau of Neighborhood Councils (BONC) leadership orientation and comprehensive neighborhood council training, including a review of how often board members should take their mandatory training, has been approved. There is currently no censure and board removal policy training, as that is still being edited.
    - If the NWNC would like to modify their bylaws, changes should be agendaized, with documents and forms submitted prior to the Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.
    - The city is launching an update to its Housing Element, with a plan to identify and meet LA's housing needs. To learn more about the Housing Element, how it shapes housing in our city, and what you can do to help, please attend one of the following open house meetings or visit their website at <https://planning4la.org/Plan2HouseLA>.

Monday, February 24 <sup>th</sup> , 5PM	Pico House 424 North Main Street
Saturday, February 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2PM	Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center 5056 Van Nuys Boulevard
Wednesday, March 4 <sup>th</sup> , 6PM	Jim Gilliam Recreation Center 4000 South LaBrea Avenue
    - Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be an Introduction to Community Data meeting at the El Nido Family Services, 11243 Glen Oaks Boulevard, Pacoima. Attendees will learn Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping (from the city's Bureau of Engineering Services) and other information about their community and how to use it for advocacy efforts.
  - Field Representative Nicki Perez from Jesse Gabriel's office reported the following:
    - Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM, Assemblyman Gabriel will host a free workshop to help students and parents applying for financial aid and scholarships. This will be held at:  
El Camino Real High School  
5440 Valley Circle Boulevard, Woodland Hills

- Financial aid experts will answer questions about Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the California Dream Act, Middle Class Scholarships, and more. Please be prepared to bring social security numbers and 2018 tax returns for the student (if applicable) as well as the parents. RSVP at <https://a45.asmdc.org/event>.
- Now that the state assembly is back in session, Assemblyman Gabriel is introducing packages on higher education, housing, homelessness, legal reform, legal justice, and human rights, as well as continued support for the Shriver Act, which allows for legal representation in civil cases.
- Danni Wang from Assemblywoman Christy Smith mentioned a few items:
  - The legislative session has recently commenced, so Ms. Smith is busy commuting to Sacramento. She has already introduced AB1837, which helps mitigate the financial impact on schools in the event of a natural disaster, such as last October's Saddleridge Fire.
  - Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Smith met with veteran's and women's advisory committees.
- Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Field Deputy for CD12/Councilman John Lee, who advocates for the stakeholder's behalf while interfacing with the Departments of Building, Safety, Transportation, as well as the LAFD and LAPD, spoke of the following:
  - Mondays, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, Councilman Lee held "Conversations with the Council" meetings with constituents. One of these meetings was held at the Devonshire Police Activity League Supporters (PALS) Center at 8721 Wilbur Avenue. This PALS center was developed to keep kids away from those who could recruit them to join a gang or encourage them to commit a crime. Volunteers are always welcome at PALS to help with tutoring, mentoring, and/or sports.
  - LA Municipal Code 85.02, which prohibits sleeping in vehicles within residential communities between 9PM and 6AM, as well as tents on sidewalks, has not yet made it out of the council's Homelessness Committee. Councilman Lee will continue to request that this be agendized every day until it is heard.
  - Stakeholder Andrew Krowne asked that the NWNC agendize a letter to CD12 requesting the left turn arrow at Wilbur Avenue and Rinaldi Street as this intersection has one or two accidents per month.
  - Someone requested that the CD12 website be updated to include a staff member's link.
  - Glenn Bailey (from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC)) asked about sidewalk vending. The city's Bureau of Street Services (BSS) has additional patrols to monitor non-compliant sidewalk vendors. A badged officer can request a vendor's identification. However, if the vendor cannot produce identification, the officer can do nothing. Glenn added that a few vendors along Reseda Boulevard have rental trucks with cables, stoves, and generators, but no running water. If these vendors lack hot water, they should be shut down. Sadly, a few of these vendors pour their used cooking oils into the sewer, which leads to the ocean. CD12 agrees that these street vendors should adhere to the same rules as brick-and-mortar restaurants. In response to Lloyd's question, it is unknown how many representatives of the BSS patrol the valley.
  - Councilman Lee added that he secured funding for repaving Tampa Avenue from Chatsworth Street to Lassen Street (and possibly to Plummer Street).
  - Overtime funding for the LAPD has been approved and is in effect. You may see additional police vehicles, bicycles, and foot patrol, especially along Wilbur, Mason, and Canoga Avenues, at the corner of Balboa Boulevard and Devonshire Street, as well as at the local parks.

- Since his election 100-days ago, Councilman Lee has cleaned 3,500 graffiti locations and encourages his staff to be involved in bulky item pick-ups.
  - Gail expressed concern about the signal light at Kenya Street and Wilbur Avenue. John urged her to call 311 as well as his office. The community is also concerned about non-functioning streetlights along Wilbur Avenue due to copper wire theft.
  - A stakeholder mentioned a rumor that the Porter Ranch Fire Station was going to close; John replied that this was merely a false rumor, and this fire station will not close.
3. Update from the LAPD, Community Police Advisory Committee (CPAC)
- Mikkie Loi from the Devonshire Police Advisory Board, which deals with public safety issues that affect the Devonshire community, mentioned the following events on the following dates:
    - Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 8AM to 8PM, Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, 10250 Etiwanda Avenue, Northridge
    - Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> Beginning at 7PM, Basic Car 17A81 Neighborhood Watch Meeting at the Garden Church, 20745 Nordhoff Street, Chatsworth. This month's topic will be changing laws involving homelessness in the city and the effects on law enforcement with Deputy City Attorney Alin Sahagian. Police are powerless when there is no law stating something is illegal (such as homelessness).
    - Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> Beginning at 7PM, Basic Car/Neighborhood Watch Meeting at Granada Hills Charter High School (GHCHS), 10535 Zelzah Avenue. This month's topic will be active shooter drills
    - Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> Beginning at 7PM, Basic Car/Neighborhood Watch Meeting at St. John Eudes Church, 9901 Mason Avenue, Chatsworth. Senior Lead Office Danny DelValle will discuss smart voting
    - Additional information will appear on Facebook, Next Door, and the NWNC website.
4. Guest Speakers, Presentation by School Board Candidates for Office #3
- The three LAUSD candidates were present:
    - From age eight, Marilyn Koziater and her family lived overseas, serving families in poverty-stricken nations throughout the world. She moved to LA twenty years ago to attend USC for her BS in business administration and now she and her husband are raising their young family in the valley.
    - Marilyn is the only candidate who works in public schools. She does grant writing and leads the Community Outreach Department for GHCHS, one of the highest-performing schools in California, where she increased parental engagement and helped students gain real-world job experience.
    - She also sits on the Education Advisory Committee, alongside assemblywoman Christy Smith, whereupon they track LAUSD's legislative requests in Sacramento. They both would like to see more technical career pathways (rather than forcing people onto college) and more school nurses.
    - Marilyn will be the only school board member with children attending an LAUSD school.
    - Regarding sex education, Marilyn mentioned that parents trust the schools with their children and she is very concerned about the lack of transparency.
    - Elizabeth Bartels-Badger feels that the LAUSD board can make a difference in the world.
    - She is a product of the community, having graduated from CSUN with her BS and MS in Public Policy and Political Science, as well as a degree from USC.
    - Elizabeth is a strong supporter of both public as well as charter schools.
    - She is the mom of three birth children and three stepchildren.

- As the mom of a fifteen-year-old daughter, she feels it is her responsibility to deal with contraceptive distribution; the schools should have no role in this issue.
- She became involved in school advocacy because of a trial involving her son Lucas, who was told at age four that he could not acclimate within the LAUSD system. Last June, Lucas graduated from high school with a 3.4 GPA and is now a freshman at CSUN.
- Elizabeth would like to see increased communication between the schools and the parents. She currently emails her children's teachers; sometimes the teacher will reply to her email during class.
- She feels it is imperative that the LAUSD invest in the safety of the children; one of her granddaughters was at the Saugus High School when they had a shooting on November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- She would also like to see foreign language and advanced math introduced in the early grades. The CSU and UC schools have created a mandate that their incoming freshmen must know qualitative math.
- Elizabeth also supports vocational and arts programs. However, the LAUSD states that they do not have enough money in the budget. She will review the budget and find money.
  
- Scott Schmerelson is a current LAUSD board member who represents 110 schools from North Hollywood to Chatsworth.
- Scott holds a BS in foreign language education, as well as two master's degrees in foreign language education and school administration. Previously, he was a teacher, counselor and principal at schools in South LA, East LA, Central LA, as well as the valley.
- Under his watch, Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) have been very refined, including doing dyslexia screenings at every school.
- Although libraries are already in place in all middle and high schools, Scott made certain that elementary school libraries were well funded to instill a child's love of books.
- In support of the importance of engaging parents with their kid's education, Scott chairs a monthly Parent Engagement Committee at 4PM.
- He feels that everyone should have the right to speak their mind. However, respect is of the utmost importance, not merely for teachers, but also for the bus drivers, secretaries, principals, bus drivers, and attendance monitors.
- Scott reported that the schools have frequent active shooter drills and is very concerned about kids who bring guns to school. Oftentimes, the parent's think their unlocked guns are hidden from their children. In these cases, the parents are prosecuted and the kids expelled.
- Although many kids go to college, Scott thinks going into the military or into a trade is equally honorable. The construction industry complains that there are insufficient carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc. and he pushes for apprenticeships for these well-paying jobs.
- Scott added that is always comes back to the budget; California pays their teachers \$17k, compared to New York which pays over \$30k.
  
- Gail mentioned that as a former teacher, she does not believe that all kids belong in college. In addition, when she taught at Chatsworth High, the health office distributed non-spermicidal condoms.

## 5. Public comments

- Mike Orkin reported that the Northridge Branch Library and Metro would co-sponsor a travel/social club for older adults. This will include group trips aboard Metro, along with experienced transit riders. These Metro rides cost merely \$.35 during non-peak and \$.75 during peak times. Attendees will learn how to use their TAP car while riding the orange to the red lines. This will lead to a tour of Union Station followed by lunch at Philippe's Restaurant.

- Pat LoPresti from the Friends of the Oakridge Estate thanked the NWNC for funding the newly installed plaque at the Oakridge Estate Park. She especially commended Rana Sharif, the city's Department of Parks and Recreation, and CD12. The house has since re-opened for tours.
- Glenn Bailey from the NENC mentioned the following:
  - Thanks to Peter Lasky for joining him on the podium at the Oakridge Estate Park Plaque dedication.
  - BONC will host their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Sunland-Tujunga Branch Library, 7771 Foothill Boulevard.
  - This week's Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) meeting (at the Sherman Oaks Hospital) would have City Controller Ron Galperin as their featured speaker.
  - The NENC is concerned about the recently destroyed median near Superior and Kinzie Streets; perhaps the NWNC and NENC could support Northridge Vision's repair of this median?
- Dave Brown from the SOS Survival Product's training center mentioned that they frequently host free training sessions on Saturdays at their shop at 15705 Strathern Street, Van Nuys. The following classes are scheduled:
 

February 15	10AM to Noon	Emergency Power
February 15	1PM to 3PM	Two-Way Radio 101
March 7	9AM to 1PM	Stop the Bleed and More
March 21	10AM to Noon	Emergency Preparedness Training
- For additional information, please visit their website at [sosproducts.com](http://sosproducts.com). In addition, April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, SOS will host their annual parking lot sale.

## 6. Committee Reports

- Glen reported that the recent Beautification Committee meeting went well and the Bylaws Committee will meet on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Kathleen reported that the Public Safety Committee recently met with Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Parker to discuss addiction and homelessness. The committee has coordinated some street repairs, and is working on the repair of a lifted sidewalk (caused by an overgrown tree) along Wystone Avenue.
- She added that January's Homeless Count was very difficult and could be inaccurate as many of the tents were gone. Perhaps the NWNC could solicit a canned food drive for the homeless?
- Rana reported that the Outreach Committee co-hosted the very successful Oakridge Estate Park Plaque Unveiling on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. They met earlier today and discussed their next big event, which will be this Saturday's (February 15<sup>th</sup>) CD12 Candidate Town Hall at GHCHS. This Town Hall will be co-hosted by eight area neighborhood councils.
- She added that if anyone has anything to post onto the NWNC's social media sites, please forward the information to her.
- Gail reported that Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10AM, the Freedom Church at 9200 Owensmouth Avenue would host a Homeless Connect Day. This event will have a medical truck, people to assist the homeless with social security issues, new clothes, tax assistance, identification papers, hygiene kits, etc. The North Valley Alliance on Homelessness was going to host a job fair, but ten of the twelve hiring companies dropped out. Assistance will be provided on how to interview, write a resume, dress appropriately, etc.

- Gail added that the Hope of the Valley has purchased proposed shelters, including a bridge housing facility in North Hollywood; they hope to open this summer.
  - The Center for Assault Treatment Services (CATS) has a few upcoming fundraisers, including:
    - A “Music Helps Humanity” concert featuring San Fernando Valley artists on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM at the Toolbox, 9410 Owensmouth Avenue, Chatsworth. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for high school students.
    - The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Victory for Victims Fundraiser, to be held Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Woodley Park, 6350 Woodley Avenue, which will include:
      - 10k River Run      Kids Fun Run
      - 5k Walk/Run      1-mile Dog-Friendly Run
    - As the NWNC donated \$2,500, they will have a booth.
    - Many of CATS battered victims are also homeless, aged 2-months to 94-years.
  - Kelly mentioned that the Standing Rules Committee will meet on Tuesdays, February 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Beautification Committee will meet on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. They will discuss the next steps forward on the utility box artwork project, as well as a litter pick-up event scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - On behalf of the Education Committee, Jennifer mentioned that she recently spoke with people at the Nobel School regarding their upcoming NPG; this will be further discussed in agenda item 12.
  - Abby mentioned that the Government Affairs Committee would meet at 7PM on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, 18705 Devonshire Street. They will discuss the March 3<sup>rd</sup> election.
7. Discussion and Motion to approve the recommendation of the Public Land Use and Zoning (PLUZ) Committee to approve: LA City Department of City Planning Case # ZA-2019-6705-MCUP: APPLICATION FOR MASTER CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES) for up to five restaurants with the sale of full line of alcohol for on-site consumption, one restaurant for sale of beer and wine on-site; and up to two establishment for off-site consumption at The Shops at Symmetry, 19515–19545 Nordhoff Street, Northridge. More information is at <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/search/encoded/MjMzNTUx0> subject to subsequent input from consultant Brett Engstrom, prior to the NWNC board meeting on February 11 on the issues of:
- a. Are there sufficient parking for employees,
  - b. The large number of compact parking spaces in the 122 spaces allowed for customers of the shops and restaurants, and
  - c. PLUZ’s request for space to accommodate a community room.
- Brett Engstrom spoke on behalf of The Shops at Symmetry, just east of Lowe’s. This will be a Master Conditional Use Development; any business going in there will be under the same umbrella, whereupon they all abide by the same rules. Proposed tenants include a Panini Grill, the California Fish Grill, the Burger Lounge, a small convenience market, and a chiropractor’s office. This site will also include 430 apartments and 1,065 parking spaces.
  - Lloyd thanked the PLUZ (including Josue, Jennifer, and community member Brian Reff) for their service at the meeting on Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Village Retirement Community, 9222 Corbin Avenue. Their main issue with the Shops at Symmetry is regarding the alcohol permit. He added that as all NWNC committees are concerned about meeting space, perhaps the new Symmetry Development could include a community meeting room? Brett will kick this idea up to his corporate office.

- The PLUZ did not discuss the proposed Porto's Bakery occupying the former Sears automotive facility at Nordhoff Street and Shirley Avenue because of a delay regarding Sears bankruptcy.
  - At the PLUZ meeting, Jennifer expressed concern regarding the excessive compact car parking spaces at the Symmetry.
  - Bill Fox made a motion to approve this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
8. Discussion and Motion to approve the recommendation of the PLUZ Committee to approve: LA City Department of City Planning Case #ZA-2019-6709-MCU: Application for full-service alcohol restaurant by Panini Kabob Grill (The Shops at Symmetry), 19545 Nordhoff Street, Northridge. More information is at <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjMzNTU10> subject to subsequent input from consultant Brett Engstrom, prior to the NWNC board meeting on February 11, on the issues of:
- a. Are there sufficient parking for employees,
  - b. The large number of compact parking spaces in the 122 spaces allowed for customers of the shops and restaurants, and
  - c. PLUZ's request for space to accommodate a community room.
- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
9. Discussion and Motion to approve the recommendation of the PLUZ Committee to approve: LA City Department of City Planning Case # ZA-2019-6963-MPA: Application for full-service alcohol restaurant by Burger Lounge, 19515 Nordhoff Street, Northridge. More information at <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/search/encoded/MjMzODI40> subject to subsequent input from consultant Brett Engstrom, prior to the NWNC board meeting on February 11, on the issues of:
- a. Are there sufficient parking for employees,
  - b. The large number of compact parking spaces in the 122 spaces allowed for customers of the shops and restaurants, and
  - c. PLUZ's request for space to accommodate a community room.
- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
10. Discussion and Motion to approve the recommendation of the PLUZ Committee to approve: LA Department of City Planning Case # ZA-2019-7512-MPA: Application for CUP to allow sale and dispensing beer and wine for on-site and off-site consumption by California Fish Grill, 19525 Nordhoff Street, Northridge.
- The Fish Grill's hours of operation will be less than the aforementioned restaurants at 19415-19545 Nordhoff Street.
  - Regretfully, a representative of the Fish Grill was unable to attend this evening's NWNC meeting.
  - Pam Bolin made a motion to approve this agenda item; Gail Lapaz seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
11. Discussion and motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee at the January Meeting for the approval of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) request by GHCHS of \$2,500 to support their Robotics Team. Funding to come from the NPG Budget.
- Abby recused herself, as her son is on the team.
  - Rana read a letter attached to the NPG application.
  - The GHCHS team is called the Robodox (as in "doctors") as they visit other school's teams during competition and serve as a first aid station by offering to fix software and build parts for their opponents.

- The intent of this NPG for the GHCHS Robotics Team is to fund the lodging expenses that the team will incur at their competitions in Ventura on March 19 to 22 and in Antelope Valley on April 3 to 4 (as these competitions are too far to drive each day). Oftentimes, these expenses can exceed \$5k.
- The NWNC has supported this in previous years by contributing \$2k.
- As thanks to the NWNC, a laser will apply the NWNC logo to their robot.
- Pam Bolin made a motion to table this agenda item; Josue Toscano seconded this motion and it failed.
  - Aye (2) Bolin and Toscano
  - No (9) Dent, Edwards, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, and Wilson
  - Recusal (1) Bailes
- Rana Sharif made a motion to support this agenda item; Bill Fox seconded this motion and it passed.
  - Aye (10) Dent, Edwards, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, Toscano, and Wilson
  - Abstain (1) Bolin
  - Recusal (1) Bailes

12. Discussion and motion to approve \$1,000 in support of Nobel Middle School’s Tovey Run

- President Sayuri Olivera and Historian Jessica Miller from the Nobel PTSA addressed the NWNC.
- This will be the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Tovey Run, founded by retired physical education teacher Mike Tovey.
- The Nobel School loads the students onto six or seven buses and drives them up to Sesnon Boulevard. From there, the kids run back to the school, about three miles downhill. Gail loves this Tovey Run as it goes right past her house.
- The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council tabled their NPG because it did specify which other councils participated in the Tovey Run.
- Bill Fox made a motion to support this agenda item; Pam Bolin seconded this motion and it passed.
  - Aye (11) Bailes, Bolin, Dent, Edwards, Fox, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, Toscano, and Wilson
  - Recusal (1) Krowne

13. Reports by Liaisons

- Gail reported that as the Homelessness Liaison, she may not be available to attend the city’s nighttime Homelessness Liaisons meetings held downtown.

14. Budget Advocate report, and report on the Budget Advocates White Paper (a report on the City Budget and Suggestions for City Departments and Agencies by the Budget Advocates, Council File #CF-20-0600)

- All three of the Northwest Valley Budget Advocates (Brian Allen, Garry Fordyce, and Glenn Bailey) attended this evening’s NWNC meeting.
- Brian reported that the advocates have approved their annual white paper. A formal copy will be presented to Mayor Garcetti, as well as all neighborhood council board members.
- Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Budget Day at City Hall. All budget representatives and board members are welcome. The 36 Budget Advocates will be elected during the breakout sessions.

15. Update on the Utility Art Box Program meeting with CD 12

- Kelly reported that the Beautification Committee recently met with District Director Ron Rubine from CD12 (who will provide funds) to discuss the utility box art project. CD12, NWNC, and the



Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will also work with the 11:11, Art's Creative Collective (ACC), as they will provide full service.

- This task is now with the city's Department of Cultural Affairs.

16. Update on the CD12 Town Hall to be held February 15<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8.30PM at GHCHS's Highlander Hall

- If anyone is interested in volunteering for this Town Hall, please reach out to Rana.

17. Update on the Sex-Ed Town Hall

- Disappointingly, the city disapproved the [originally scheduled February 29<sup>th</sup>] Sex-Ed Town Hall (with no explanation); this will be postponed until a later date.
- Fully cancelling this event could make the NWNC (and other co-hosting councils) appear unreliable. Therefore, the NWNC (and the other councils) will take the necessary steps to reschedule this event at a future date.
- In the interim, there will be a privately funded event [with no sponsorship or relationship to a neighborhood council] on Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. No city funds will be used for this meeting. A speaker from Conejo Valley will address this event; Conejo Valley is under the same mandate as the LAUSD.

At this time, Bill Fox departed the meeting.

18. Discussion and possible motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$250 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Annual Anniversary Mixer and Neighborhood Council Awards Ceremony. The event is open to everyone and there is no cost for attendance. Funding to come from the Outreach Budget.

- The annual VANC anniversary mixer would be held Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at CBS Studio Center, Studio City. All NWNC board members will be invited.
- This year, the LADWP will provide a professional sound system. The invoice to each council will be significantly less than previously requested.
- Many city officials will be in attendance, a few will speak.
- Occasionally, VANC will grant a Razzie award to a person or council that has not done very much.
- There may also be a raffle at the end of the event.
- Peter added that the "best of" awards could be very inspirational and offer suggestions for future NWNC expenditures.
- Glen Wilson made a motion for the NWNC to contribute \$250 to this event; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
- Rana Sharif made an amended motion for the NWNC to contribute up to \$250 to this event; Josue Toscano seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

19. Report by Dave Brown on the condition of the NWNC Ham Radio, tabled from the January Meeting

- Dave Brown from the NWNC Public Safety Committee reported that the NWNC ham radios [and their cases] are high quality and expensive items. They appear to be more than ten years old, but it is unknown who bought them.
- Dave tested the radios by calling various channels and determined that they work. He has two recommendations:
  - Someone from the NWNC gets an amateur radio license. One does not require a license to listen, but a license is mandatory to transmit. A basic free radio class will be held at the SOS Survival Products in Van Nuys on Saturday afternoon, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

- There are several volunteer Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS) groups in LA. Perhaps the NWNC could donate this gear to ACS? However, the city has a procedure regarding donating such city-owned items.
- Dave also showed a pair of Family Radio Service (FRS) two-way radios that were valued at \$60; these were presented to Rana.

20. Presidential comments

- This agenda item was tabled.

21. Discussion and motion to approve filing a nomination for a best of award for the VANC Spring Mixer. There is no cost for nomination

- Peter Lasky made a motion that he will take the action to prepare to nominate the NWNC for a best of award; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

22. Discussion and Motion to approve the November Minutes

- Gail Lapaz made a motion to support this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed.  

Aye (9)	Bolin, Dent, Edwards, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, and Wilson
Abstain (2)	Bailes and Toscano
Absent (1)	Fox

23. Discussion and Motion to approve the January Minutes

- Gail Lapaz made a motion to support this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed.  

Aye (9)	Bolin, Dent, Edwards, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, and Wilson
Abstain (2)	Bailes and Toscano
Absent (1)	Fox

24. Discussion and motion to approve the January Monthly Expense Report

- Pam Bolin made a motion to support this agenda item; Josue Toscano seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
- Kelly Sooter reported that there is currently less than \$1k remaining in the NPG budget.

25. Board members comments

- Lloyd Dent mentioned that it has been a privilege serving on the board, but must resign due to his many time conflicts. He looks forward to attending the NWNC meetings as a stakeholder.
- Pam said that she missed seeing fellow NWNC members at Councilman Lee's recent meetings. However, she saw many attendees from the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council.

26. Adjournment

- Rana Sharif made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9.14PM; Pam Bolin seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.